

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10339–S10529

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1903–1909, and S. Res. 285–287. **Pages S10423–24**

Measures Reported:

S. 675, to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–138)

S. 1565, to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients. (S. Rept. No. 110–139)

S. 1607, to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S10422**

Measures Passed:

Temporary Extension: Senate passed H.R. 3206, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through December 15, 2007, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S10524–25**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 7, providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Page S10525**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 8, providing for the reappointment of Patricia Q. Stonesifer as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Page S10525**

Peacekeeping In Darfur: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 276, calling for the urgent deployment of a robust and effective multinational peacekeeping

mission with sufficient size, resources, leadership, and mandate to protect civilians in Darfur, Sudan, and for efforts to strengthen the renewal of a just and inclusive peace process, and the resolution was then agreed to after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S10525**

Tester (for Biden) Amendment No. 2591, of a perfecting nature. **Page S10525**

Tester (for Biden) Amendment No. 2592 (to the preamble), to urge all participants in the conflict in Darfur to engage in a political process led by the United Nations and African Union, to express disapproval of failure to participate in such political process. **Page S10525**

National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day: Senate agreed S. Res. 285, designating September 9, 2007, as “National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day”. **Pages S10525–26**

Recognizing Heroic Firefighters: Senate agreed S. Res. 286, recognizing the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain numerous wildfires throughout the Western United States. **Pages S10526–27**

Honoring Iowa National Guard: Senate agreed S. Res. 287, honoring and expressing gratitude to the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry (“Ironman Battalion”) of the Iowa National Guard. **Page S10527**

National Anthem Project: Senate agreed to S. Res. 236, supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America’s voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem. **Page S10527**

Recognizing Long Distance Runs: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 255, recognizing and supporting the long distance runs that will take place in the People’s Republic of China in 2007 and the United States in 2008 to promote friendship between the peoples of China and the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10527–28**

Commemorating Archdiocese of New York 200th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 277, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the

Archdiocese of New York, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10528**

Regarding Announcement of the Russian Federation: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 278, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the announcement of the Russian Federation of its suspension of implementation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10528–29**

Recognizing 75th Anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 26, recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and commending recipients of the Purple Heart for their courageous demonstrations of gallantry and heroism on behalf of the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10529**

Measures Considered:

Small Business Tax Relief Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to its consideration, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S10346–89, S10401–08

Rejected:

By 37 yeas to 59 nays (Vote No. 286), Allard Amendment No. 2536 (to Amendment No. 2530), to standardize the determination of income for purposes of eligibility for SCHIP. **Pages S10363–74**

Pending:

Baucus Amendment No. 2530, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S10346–57**

Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986 to create a Disease Prevention and Treatment Research Trust Fund. **Pages S10357–58**

Bunning Amendment No. 2547 (to Amendment No. 2530), to eliminate the exception for certain States to cover children under SCHIP whose income exceeds 300 percent of the Federal poverty level. **Pages S10358–63**

Dorgan Amendment No. 2534 (to Amendment No. 2530), to revise and extend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. **Pages S10374–82**

Gregg Amendment No. 2587 (to Amendment No. 2530), to limit the matching rate for coverage other than for low-income children or pregnant women covered through a waiver and to prohibit any new waivers for coverage of adults other than pregnant women. **Pages S10382–89**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, August 1, 2007, and Senate resume consideration of Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530) (listed above), with 30 minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Ensign and Baucus, or their designees, and that no second-degree amendments be in order prior to the vote. **Page S10529**

House Messages:

Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act: Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House to S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S10389–S10401**

Pending:

Senator Reid entered a motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill. **Page S10400**

Senator Reid entered a motion to concur in the amendment of the House with Amendment No. 2589, to change the enactment date. **Pages S10400–01**

Reid Amendment No. 2590 (to Amendment No. 2589), of a perfecting nature. **Page S10401**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, August 2, 2007. **Page S10400**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Robert L. Smolen, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Andrew R. Cochran, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency. **Page S10529**

Messages from the House:

Page S10414

Enrolled Bills Presented:

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Executive Communications:

Pages S10415–16

Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S10416–22

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S10422–23

Additional Cosponsors:

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Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S10425–32

Additional Statements:

Pages S10411–14

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S10432–S10523

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S10523–24

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S10524

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—286)

Pages S10373–74

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 9:31 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10529.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing on the nominations of Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General James E. Cartwright, USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,875 nominations in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

SECURITIES MARKETS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of the securities markets, including protecting investors, fostering efficient markets, and promoting capital formation, after receiving testimony from Christopher Cox, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ronald Spoehel, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, William G. Sutton, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Thomas J. Barrett, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Murkowski, and Paul R. Brubaker, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, who was introduced by former Senator Cohen, both of the Department of Transportation, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CREDIT REPAIR ORGANIZATION ACT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine telemarketing practices, focusing on H.R. 2885, to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act to clarify the applicability of certain provisions to credit monitoring services, after receiving testimony from Lydia Parnes, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Iowa Assistant Attorney General Steve St. Clair, Des Moines; Richard Johnson, AARP, and Jerry Cerasale, Direct Marketing Association, Inc., both of Washington, DC; Joanne S. Faulkner, National Association of Consumer Advocates, New Haven, Connecticut, on behalf of sundry organizations; and Robin Holland, Equifax Inc., Atlanta, Georgia.

RENEWABLE FUELS INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy concluded an oversight hearing to examine how to improve the renewable fuels infrastructure to accommodate the increasing volumes of renewable fuels in the transportation sector, after receiving testimony from Senator Klobuchar; Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; David Terry, Governors' Ethanol Coalition, Lincoln, Nebraska; Charles T. Drevna, National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, Washington, DC; Jonathon Lehman, VeraSun Energy, Brookings, South Dakota; Deborah L. Morrisett, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, Auburn Hills, Michigan; and Phillip J. Lampert, National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition, Jefferson City, Missouri.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 742, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the health risks posed by asbestos-containing products, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 595, to amend the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 to strike a provision relating to modifications in reporting frequency;

S. 1785, to amend the Clean Air Act to establish deadlines by which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall issue a decision on whether to grant certain waivers of preemption under that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 775, to establish a National Commission on the Infrastructure of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;